

## ***LULAC FLORIDA Resolution on Parent Trigger Legislation***

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Council of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC Florida) is committed to improving the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of Florida; and,

**WHEREAS**, Parent Empowerment (popularly referred to as Parent Trigger), legislation and bills are controversial, experimental, and lack evidence of effectiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, Parent Trigger legislation causes the conversion of a low-performing traditional public school to a charter school; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida already offers more choices than other states via established public charter schools, vouchers, and scholarships for parents with students in low performing schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent Florida Department of Education publication, **Student Achievement in Florida Charter Schools: A Comparison of Achievement with Traditional Schools**, provides school grades based on achievement results of 274 of 459 or 40% of publicly funded charters schools, thereby denying taxpayers accountability on the remaining 60% of publicly funded charter schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida Department of Education indicates that 257 of 368 charter schools failed to meet AYP for the 2011-2012 school year, and

**WHEREAS**, over 243,078 English Language Learners attended Florida public school in 2010-11 school year, and 175,722 (72.3%) of ELLs in 2010-11 school year were Spanish speakers, and

**WHEREAS**, there are 154,000 students enrolled in 459 public charter schools in 2010-11 including 35% Hispanic students or 61,250, and approximately 15,000 ELLs or 10% of enrolled students in charter schools; and

**WHEREAS**, LULAC raises concerns that there is inadequate data to confirm that Florida charter schools meet the needs of English Language learners; ~~and~~

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that it be made a matter of record that the League of United Latin American Citizens supports Charter Schools whose public funding produces resources and high quality education for English Language Learners, Latino, and other communities using the processes currently in place in Florida and rejects the Parent Trigger as a mechanism to achieve that goal;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the League of United Latin American Citizens continue to advocate for and collaborate with traditional public schools and public charter schools to improve quality education for the Latino community.

Submitted by: Rochelle Cisneros, Florida Embassy LULAC Council 7220 May 26, 2012

**Adopted by: LULAC Florida on \_\_\_\_\_**

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LULAC FLORIDA STATE DIRECTOR

